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Speech by Mr. Zegbe Sanen, COPPAL'S representative, Mexico.

March 20, 1981.

Honourable table, Brothers of Latin America and the Caribbean,

Within the context of the Oaxaca declaration approved on October 12, 1979, we introduced several basic concepts in constituting the permanent Conference of Political Parties of Latin America, that I think is important to remind you of them in this conference. The basis of the vocation of unity of Latin America as a political expression of the Bolivarian ideal was established that none of our countries will be fully free or independent if this is not achieved by all the Latin American peoples. It was also said that the time has come for Latin America to carry out specific efforts to put an end to dependence of the inadequate mobilization of its peoples. The revalorization of its reserves and raw materials and supported by its conceptions of liberty, its capability of transforming, which lead us to express that Latin America is and should be for the benefit of Latin Americans. Within these parameters the Latin American political parties nationalistic, democratic and entire imperialistic that read on combined actions and joint actions to strengthen the democracies in our area, and it was for this reason that COPPAL, in its main purposes, agreed to permanently struggle for the total independence of our countries and to defend democracy and the juridical and political institutions that guarantee the popular participation in a real and effective manner in the political future of the Latin American nation and also to strengthen its development and make it more perfect. In the same manner it resolved to integrate the common front against all political activities that implies the penetration of imperialistic alien, intervention, or that try to support any form of colonial domination.

I wanted to remind you of all these political concepts, because they have to do with the basic objectives of this event that has been convoked by the M.E.P. All the political parties that are affiliated to COPPAL have come here to analyze a topic that is related with the thoughts and ideas of to great persons. The first one is Simon Bolivar, and that of the Mexican Benito Juarez, when he said that among men as well as among nations the respect to the rights of others represents peace.

When we speak here of the political situation in Latin America and the Caribbean, we speak here of decolonization, self-determination, freedom and independence. When we speak here of human rights and political and economic development in the micro-states, we are simply re-activating the Bolivarian and J. Arista concepts. And I can express with great satisfaction as a Mexican, that many of the ideas I have heard in this important event, as those mentioned by Mr. Aniceto Rodriguez, are linked with the essential principles of the Mexican Revolution, that in 1970 led to the approval of the political constitution that summarizes the desires of all men who struggle for their dignity and freedom.

The fighters of the Mexican Revolution were great, they struggled for the farmers. And our constitution also legislated with regard to the ownership of land to protect the rights of the workers. They also struggled to educate their people to freedom from the cultural economic dependence from foreign powers.

Our constitution gave the state the control and planning of culture, education and economy. They also struggled for the main principles of men. For these reasons and for many others they are extraordinary analogies that insentivate us in this international event, as citizens of America.

When the M.E.P. and its leaders under the guidance of Betico Croes talk of the independence of Aruba among their main objectives are designing what their people want. It was expressed clearly in the referendum of 1977, where over 80% of the men and women of this beautiful island expressed their desire to put an end to the foreign colonization. Not only Aruba has a right to its independence, but also all the islands of the Caribbean Sea, so that once they are free of the colonial or neo-colonial exploitation, they might be owners of their own future, thus fulfilling the ideals of our forefathers: Latin America is and should be for Latin Americans; which is one of the main slogans of COPPAL ..

Principles so as the ones that I have just mentioned are linked with the right of self-determination of our peoples of non-intervention have been clearly defended by the President of my country, Jose Lopez Portillo, in all the international and national forums.

My presence in this event is as Executive Secretary of COPPPAL and representing its President, Gustavo Cardona Moreno, to express to the M.E.P. of Aruba, that the doors of our organization are open to register it as a member of our organization and thus encourage the independence of Aruba and the freedom of its people.

Long live free America and long live independent Aruba.